

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE TRANSMISSION
OF IDENTIFIER FOR REMOVABLE STORAGE MEDIA

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A media serial number (MS#) for a removable data
storage cartridge (22) is asymmetrically encrypted using
a private key (106) from a key list (103) which never
leaves the factory. This factory encrypted value (FEMS#)
is stored in a secure memory device (46) in the
cartridge, along with an identifier (FKI#). A drive (21)
can obtain the encrypted value and associated identifier
from the memory device, and pass them to a requesting
10 program (76), which has a list (176) that it accesses
with the identifier to obtain a public key it then uses
to decrypt the information. An additional feature
involves a second level of asymmetric encryption using
additional lists of public and private keys. Another
15 feature permits the requesting program to include in its
request a random number, which is subsequently included
with the information encrypted at the second level.